GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:314
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2002
RECOMMENDATION OF QUERESHI COMMISSION
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched any proceedings against private hospitals in the capital which have not followed the Government`s directives to provide treatment to the poor;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have set up Quereshi Commission to recommend measures to enforce the agreement between Government and private hospitals; and

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations made and action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a)to(d): A statement is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 314 FOR 11.12.2002

Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that no proceedings have been launched by them. The Government of NCT of Delhi had set up a high level Committee headed by Justice A.S. Qureshi to review the status of charitable hospitals that were allotted land on concessional rates in Delhi. The Committee submitted its report on 23.5.2001. Salient points of the recommendations of the Committee are as under:-

1. Most of the representative of the hospital submitted that 25% beds earmarked for poor patients were excessive since the cost of medicines was too high. It was agreed that it should not be more than 15% in any case, but 10% would be ideal. Therefore, committee recommended 10% indoor beds free for poor patients for all-purpose including medicines and consumables. The free treatment services should be available to 25% of total OPD patients.This condition should be applicable to all hospitals that have been allotted land by the Government.

2. The free treatment should be totally free and not partly free and should be uniform for all hospitals that have been allotted land by the Government.

3. It is also suggested that those institutions should provide the free services to the extent of 10% also who have not been allotted Government land. Even Nursing Homes should provide 5% of their beds for poor and needy patients.

4. In consideration of persistent violation of expressed and implied terms by the institutions, the allotment of land should be cancelled and should be reallotted by a new lease deed on new and uniform terms and conditions for thirty years, on commercial rates of ground rent, to a new management in which Government should have at least 3 nominees by Lt. Governor having wide experience of rendering free services. The renewed lease must clearly mention that the lease is not transferable and any contravention would result in automatic cancellation.

5. The annual ground rent should be revised every thirty years. The revision of ground rent should be for all allottees of land (to educational institutions and industrial institutions also) and not only for hospitals.

6. The free IPD patients may be identified through a proforma declaration and undertaking.

7. Every hospital should have a poor patient`s advisory committee to screen and investigate the correctness of statement made in the proforma.

8. A Monitoring Cell should be set up in DHS to screen and investigate the correctness of statement made in the performa.This Cell should be empowered to monitor, scrutinize the monthly reports of the free services, to make periodic surprise visits to the hospitals. This Cell should include some eminent persons also who have the experience of running Charitable hospitals where free service to the poor is rendered efficiently.

9. Every hospital, must send a monthly statement showing the total number of patients and free patients.

10. A proper reference system by allowing the hospitals which treat the patients and do not have the required facility, equipment, skill or expertise to treat a particular case and not by any other individual or body of persons or institutions, government or non-government. The specialty or super-specialty hospitals will entertain the cases of poor patients only on a reference from the treating hospitals.

11. A drastic amendment to be made in Delhi Nursing Homes Registration Act or to enact a new comprehensive legislation to enlarge and define the powers of the Directorate of Health Services.

12. It is also suggested that a commission under the Commission of Enquiry Act, may beconstituted to go into the entire gamut of problems facing the hospitals and nursing homes in the NCT of Delhi and to draft the new comprehensive legislation for effective enforcement and monitoring mechanism.

The Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that the recommendations of Justice A.S. Qureshi Committee have been accepted in principle by the competent authority of the Government of NCT of Delhi.Modalities of giving effect to the recommendations of the aforesaid Committee are being worked out, in right earnest.